

January 19, 2009

A regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Arthur, IL was held on Monday, January 19, 2009. Village President David Conlin called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Roll call was answered by Trustees Russell Perrine, Matt Bernius, Mike Hilgenberg, and Darrell Duzan. Trustees absent were Shirley Stone and Mike McWilliams. President Conlin commented that Trustee Stone was not feeling well and Trustee McWilliams had fallen earlier in the evening and dislocated his shoulder. Village Clerk Jennifer Perrine was also absent.

Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

The regular meeting minutes of January 5, 2009 were approved as sent.

Remembrances

A moment of silence was held in honor of Jeff Artis, stepson of Village employee, Steve Peterson and his wife Debra.

President Comments and Announcements

President Conlin stated he spoke to a representative from the Subway restaurant today. They informed him that all the licenses and permits to do the entrance off of Route 133 were in place. They are in the process of getting bids for construction.

President Conlin said he had been thanked by Rod Kennel for remembering his parents at the last board meeting.

Another work session has been scheduled for next week on Monday, January 26th, at 7:00 p.m. Angela Griffin from Coles Together and Brian Moody from the City of Tuscola will be making presentations. They will provide insight regarding what services they provide their organizations. President Conlin stated he had been contacted by a board member with the possibility of holding an additional work session before the scheduled work session on the 26th in order to get a clearer sense of direction of what path the Village should take in the future and to define what we needed as a Village. He asked the trustees their thoughts about an additional work session. After each trustee expressed their thoughts, President Conlin stated he felt we were not ready to meet as a board and that we should continue to listen to other options before meeting as a board on this matter. Trustee Duzan left the meeting.

Treasurer's Report

Village Comptroller Sue Perrine presented the monthly financial reports. She also stated that she and President Conlin planned to attend a meeting in Champaign on the 28th regarding pension plan employer rates in 2010 through IMRF.

Visitors Comments

Visitors present were Terry Clark, Jim Fleming, Trudi Crossman, Iris Dicks, George Fritz, Brett Thompson, and Village employee Jeff Mercer. There were no comments.

Trustees Reports

M. Hilgenberg said he would like to clarify his position regarding the Palmer Street Bridge project. He is not against the project. He just has some financial concerns. He asked if the Village had plans for the bridge ready. President Conlin stated that we did, but they were 2-3 years old. Village Attorney Robert Crossman commented on the prior work done on this project. Easements have already been obtained.

M. Hilgenberg also asked about some sewage problems. R. Perrine stated that a Water & Sewer Committee Meeting was to have been held at 6:00 p.m. today but was cancelled due to a family emergency. They were going to discuss some of these problems and that Village employee Steve Peterson had come up with some ideas that may lead to more affordable solutions. The committee meeting will be rescheduled for a later date.

M. Hilgenberg commented that we should be ready to proceed with projects if stimulus money becomes available.

Police Chief's Report

Chief Michael Goodman passed out the December monthly report and year end reports. Overall calls for service is down. Total arrests in the Village are up. He also commented

that property crimes are the #1 type of crime activity they respond to as a department. He would be glad to answer any questions regarding the reports at the next board meeting.

M. Goodman said he wrote and applied for a grant this past summer with the Illinois Law Enforcement Training & Standards Board. The grant was for an in-car camera. We have already purchased one camera for the police department. Arthur was selected as 1 of 16 to receive another camera through this grant. The bill for the additional camera is being presented tonight, but the Village will be reimbursed for this purchase.

Trustee M. Bernius asked about the NIMS 300 training class. M. Goodman stated more training needed to be done and most of the classes could be done online.

Village Attorney's Report

R. Crossman informed the Board that he had closed on the two lots in the North Vine Street Subdivision on Friday, January 16th and that construction had already begun on both lots.

There would be two zoning variance hearings coming up. One hearing would be on January 22nd involving the high school and the other hearing would be on January 29th involving property owner Tom Brewer.

The Arthur/Atwood Road water main relocation project is scheduled to begin soon. He commented that there were no problems with the easement regarding the University of Illinois. However, since the last meeting, there has been a negative response on one of the unsigned easements regarding one of the shortest strips of land. The project can be done without the easement but a lot of additional work and expense will be involved if the easement is not obtained. R. Crossman stated we really need to know within 7-10 days if the property owner will comply.

Old Business – None

New Business

Brett Thompson began his presentation by asking a question regarding hours of operation on Sundays. He wanted to know if he could open earlier in the day in order to serve food. R. Crossman stated he could open his business earlier than noon, but he could not serve alcohol until noon. B. Thompson stated being open on Sundays was going pretty well. He made a request to the Board to extend the hours of operation at Anthony's Too on Super Bowl Sunday. He would like to stay open until 11 p.m. in order to remain in operation and serve alcohol during the entire game. Motion was made by M. Bernius to extend the closing time on Super Bowl Sunday until 11 p.m. Seconded by M. Hilgenberg. All Trustees and President Conlin voted YEA.

The Village has received a donation request from Moultrie County Habitat for Humanity. Trustees discussed what Arthur had done in the past to support this organization. In the past, the Village has approved waivers for building permits and water & sewer hook-up fees. The monetary donation request died for lack of a motion.

Trustee R. Perrine stated he had spoken to Rod Randall regarding renewing the water & sewer billing service agreement between the Village and Randall Electric. Neither party has any issues with the current agreement. R. Perrine made the motion to extend the billing and service agreement for 1 year at the current rate of \$1400/month. Seconded by M. Hilgenberg. All Trustees and President Conlin voted YEA.

There was no discussion on the recommendation from the Water & Sewer Committee regarding future projects. The committee was to have met earlier today at 6:00 p.m., but the meeting will be rescheduled due to a family emergency.

Motion was made by R. Perrine and Seconded by M. Bernius to designate May 2nd and May 9th as the annual Village Cleanup Days. Arthur residents living in Douglas County would be provided curbside removal services on May 2nd and Arthur residents in Moultrie County would be provided the services on May 9th. The service provider would be Veolia out of Charleston. All Trustees and President Conlin voted YEA.

There was discussion regarding the current Village website, arthur-il.gov. It was the general consensus that the site is difficult to access. It was suggested that the domain

name might need to be changed. It was also expressed that the site has taken almost a year to be completed and is not what had been envisioned. President Conlin stated a proposal had been received from George Fritz to design a new website for the Village. It was mentioned that a local business, APT Computing and the Illinois Municipal League be contacted about the website services they provide or endorse. President Conlin suggested to the trustees they visit other municipality websites, such as Arcola. President Conlin directed R. Crossman write a letter to the current website designer, Wm. Scott Kelley, stating the Village's displeasure.

Approve Expenditures

M. Hilgenberg made the motion to accept December expenditures in the amount of \$32,048.72. Seconded by R. Perrine. All Trustees and President Conlin voted YEA.

H. Hilgenberg made the motion to accept the bills in the amount of \$26,098.16 Seconded by M. Bernius. All Trustees and President Conlin voted YEA.

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 8 p.m.

APPROVED David J. Conlin
Village President

ATTEST Ann A. Perrine
Village Comptroller

DATE February 2, 2009